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Contact: Tambra Stevenson
(202) 482-6274 (work)
Email: tstevenson@mbda.gov

AALS Translation Services Receives Award from MBDA at International Trade Day Event in Atlanta

MED Week International Trade Day held on September 28

ATLANTA, GA --The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) announced today that AALS Translation Services, an Asian-owned firm, will receive the "Service Firm of the Year" award from the MBDA Atlanta Region as part of the Agency's Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week International Trade Day.

During the *Expanding Horizons* workshop held in Atlanta on September 28, MBDA's National Director, Ronald N. Langston will present the award to AALS to recognize its global success in the service industry. The *Expanding Horizon* workshop, co-hosted by MBDA and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), is the first of three workshops being held around the country to educate minority entrepreneurs about government programs available to support overseas investment in developing countries.

"AALS represents one of the many minority business enterprises who are leveraging their unique capabilities and strengths for success in a worldwide marketplace," said Ronald N. Langston, National Director of the Minority Business Development Agency. "More minority firms must increase their size, scale and value-proposition to compete effectively in the global economy. MBDA is only federal agency dedicated to achieving this and we are pleased to be partnering with OPIC to help grow minority businesses."

Started by Garry Guan in 1995, AALS offers a full range of multilingual and cross-cultural consulting, multimedia communication services and culturally sensitive translations for both federal government and private companies. "It is quite a great honor to receive this recognition from MBDA, which recognizes the increasingly vital role minority businesses in the U.S. play in keeping America's economy strong and competitive," said Garry Guan, President of the Georgia-based company, AALS.

To encourage more minority entrepreneurs to enter the global marketplace, MBDA and OPIC will host two additional workshops. The next one will be held in Chicago on October 12 and the third one will be in Los Angeles on November 16. Companies interested in the workshops can learn more at www.mbda.gov. Participation in the *Expanding Horizons* workshop is just one of many examples of MBDA's commitment to supporting minority-owned businesses in succeeding in the global economy.

About the Minority Business Development Agency, U.S. Department of Commerce

The Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, is the only federal agency created specifically to foster the establishment and growth minority-owned businesses in America. MBDA is an entrepreneurially focused and innovative organization committed to wealth creation in minority communities. Guided by its mission, MBDA actively promotes the growth and competitiveness of large, medium and small minority business enterprises (MBEs) by offering management and technical assistance to minority entrepreneurs with small, medium and large-sized companies through a network of forty local business centers throughout the United States. Statistics on minority businesses and resources to build and sustain minority businesses are available at www.mbda.gov.